UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/339
21 April 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 20 APRIL 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued over the period 1 to 15 April and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 1-15 April 1998

1. In the northern region 56 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Zakho, Irbil, Tall Afar and Ayn Zalah.

2. In the southern region 1,010 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Habariyah, Basra, Hayy, Shatrah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Rifa'i, Nukhayb, Qal'at Salih, Diwaniyah, Hamzah, Maymunah, Abu Sukhayr, Qala't Sukkar, Ukhaydir, Umm Qasr and Taqtaqanah.

3. Twelve sorties were flown by United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft at altitudes of 20,000 metres and at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour.

4. At 1415 hours on 1 April 1998 a formation of two United States aircraft dropped eight heat flares over the city of Mosul.

5. At 1140 hours on 4 April 1998 a formation of United States aircraft broke the sound barrier over the city of Batha' in Dhi Qar Governorate.

6. At 1745 hours on 27 March 1998 a British helicopter forced the Maltese vessel Awral, anchored by grapnel near buoy No. 2, to leave the region and submit to a search in the area of Khawr Abdullah.